

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:TMDEFORD:JFC

APPROVED BY NEA/ MR. SOBER

L/NEA - MR. BROWN

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NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

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R 060018Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118974

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ECON SY

SUBJ : OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH SYRIA

REF: DAMASCUS 1014

1. THERE ARE VARIOUS OUTSTANDING USG CLAIMS AGAINST SARG UNDER ACTIVE STUDY. THESE INCLUDE DEFAULTED EX-IM LOAN (BOUSTANY CLAIM) AND THREE PL 480 LOCAL CURRENCY LOANS, ON WHICH SARG STOPPED PAYMENTS IN 1967, AND AN AID DOLLAR LOAN, PAYABLE IN LOCAL CURRENCY, ON WHICH SARG HAS MADE NO PAYMENTS. ALSO, WE ARE INVESTIGATING TO WHAT EXTENT SARG HAS FROZEN U.S.-OWNED SYRIAN POUNDS, THUS PROHIBITING ANY USG EXPENDITURE TO COVER OUR IN-COUNTRY EXPENSES OR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

2. THESE RAISE SEVERAL LEGAL ISSUES. AS SOON AS DEPARTMENT'S STUDY COMPLETED WE WILL HAVE DETAILS FOR YOU AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISCUSSION WITH SARG. IN MEANTIME, YOU SHOULD SEE IMADI WHEN CONVENIENT TO ASSURE HIM WE ARE REVIEWING THESE PROBLEMS AND HOPE TO BE IN POSITION TO
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PURSUE MATTER WITH SARG SHORTLY. KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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